UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/47/79
15 December 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 104

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA)

Report of the Secretary-General

INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 4 of its resolution 765 (1992) of 16 July 1992, the Security Council invited the Secretary-General to appoint, as a matter of urgency, a Special Representative in order to recommend, after, inter alia, discussion with the parties, measures which would assist in bringing an effective end to the violence and in creating conditions for negotiations leading towards a peaceful transition to a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa, and to submit a report to the Security Council as early as possible.

2. Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of South Africa (S/24389) the Security Council, by its resolution 772 (1992) of 17 August 1992, authorized the Secretary-General to deploy, as a matter of urgency, United Nations observers in South Africa, in such a manner and in such numbers as he determined necessary to address effectively the areas of concern noted in his report, in coordination with the structures set up under the National Peace Accord. The Council also invited the Secretary-General to assist in the strengthening of the structures set up under the National Peace Accord in consultation with the relevant parties: (a) the National Peace Committee; (b) the Goldstone Commission; and (c) the National Peace Secretariat.

3. In his report, the Secretary-General recommended that the efforts of the Goldstone Commission should be supported by the international community and that the recommendations of the Commission should be fully and speedily implemented by the Government and, when so required, by the parties in South

161292

Africa. Of the many recommendations of the Goldstone Commission, the Secretary-General noted in particular those relating to a total ban on the public display of dangerous weapons and the security of hostels which need to be acted upon with utmost urgency, as recent events have sadly proved. The Secretary-General further noted that the Commission's code of conduct for mass demonstrations can do much to control violence.

4. In respect of the National Peace Accord of 14 September 1991, the Secretary-General believes that it establishes a comprehensive framework, agreed upon by all the major parties, organizations and groups of South Africa, to end violence and to facilitate socio-economic development and reconstruction. The mechanisms foreseen under the Accord, however, lack teeth and need to be greatly strengthened. In this regard, the Secretary-General indicates in his report that both the National Peace Committee and the National Peace Secretariat need to be more consistently and substantially supported from the highest levels, as do the 11 regional dispute resolution committees covering all parts of the country. Most importantly, they require financing and full-time staff of the requisite calibre.

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN SOUTH AFRICA

5. On the basis of his mandate under Security Council resolution 772 (1992), the Secretary-General established in mid-September 1992 the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA). It was decided initially to dispatch 50 civilian observers to South Africa as well as a number of administrative support staff. The first group of 18 staff members departed New York on 11 September 1992 and the strength of the Group was augmented to a total of 63, comprising 50 observers and 13 support staff, by early November 1992. The number of staff also includes technical personnel required for the initial establishment of the mission. It is proposed however to reduce the number of staff to 60 prior to the end of 1992, and this level is proposed for 1993. It is also estimated that 29 local-level support staff would be required to provide for drivers, clerical staff, security personnel and handymen. Details of the staffing in 1992 and the number proposed for 1993 are provided in the table below:

Staffing table of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa

Level of staff	Number of on-board staff in 1992	Number of staff proposed for 1993
D-2	1	1
D-1	1	1
P-4	25	25
P-3/4	17	25
FS level	10	3
GS level	9	5
Total international staff	63 a/	60
Local-level staff	29	29
TOTAL STAFF	92	89

a/ To be reduced to 60 prior to the end of 1992.

6. The Mission is headed by a Chief of Mission at the D-2 level. Its headquarters are located in Johannesburg, with a sub-headquarters in Durban. Fifty of the posts shown in the table above (25 at the P-4 and 25 at the P-3/4 levels) provide for observers who are currently deployed as follows:

Area of Deployment	Number of observers
(a) Mission headquarters in Johannesburg	3
(b) Sub-headquarters in Durban	2
(c) Areas with the highest level of violence:	
(i) Wits/Vaal (Johannesburg area)	14
(ii) Natal/KwaZulu (Durban area)	10
(d) Staff at nine regional centres:	
(i) Western Cape	2
(ii) Northern Cape	2
(iii) Eastern Cape	2
(iv) Western Transvaal	2
(v) Northern Transvaal	2
(vi) Eastern Transvaal	2
(vii) Far Northern Transvaal	2
(viii) Orange Free State	3
(ix) Border/Ciskei	4
Total observers	50

7. At its inception it was estimated that the duration of the Mission would be six months. On the basis of experience during the first three months of operation, these estimates assume the Mission would run through the end of 1993. Further information is provided in the annex to the present report.

8. In respect of other requirements for the Mission, provision is made for rental of premises to accommodate the Mission's headquarters in Johannesburg and a sub-headquarters in Durban. The estimates also provide for the rental of a light fixed-wing aircraft and/or helicopter for an average of 15 hours per month to transport the observer teams to various areas of the country.

9. With regard to communications equipment, the requirements of the Mission will be met by the purchase of communications equipment such as: crypto fax, VHF handie-talkies, repeater stations, base stations, mobile telephones and antennas. Other equipment requirements relate to the purchase of 35 vehicles (1 medium-size sedan, 32 light sedans and 2 minibuses), in view of the high mobility and visibility required during the mission. Electronic data-processing equipment and other miscellaneous equipment, such as laptop computers with printers, photocopying machines, camcorders and workstations, will also be required.

10. In respect of public information activities, it is estimated that an amount of $45,000 will be required for production of posters and briefing materials and the purchase of local radio/TV time. The provision also includes requirements for a visit by a film crew to produce a video on the Mission's activities.

11. In implementing the mandate, the Observer Mission will carry out its functions in close association with the National Peace Secretariat in order to further the purposes of the Accord.

II. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 1992-1993

12. The requirements of the Mission for the initial period from mid-September to 30 November 1992 were estimated at $1 million. In that regard, the Secretary-General authorized commitments of up to $1 million for the initial phase of the Mission under the authority granted him in paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution 46/187 of 20 December 1991 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1992-1993.

13. The total requirements from mid-September 1992 through 31 December 1993 are now estimated at $13,121,300. They relate to personnel costs such as salaries, consultants' fees, travel and operational costs such as rental and maintenance of premises, rental and acquisition of vehicles, communications expenses and communications equipment and rental of aircraft/helicopter. Details of the requirements are shown in the annex to the present report. These estimated requirements are summarized below:

(In United States dollars)

	1992	1993	Total
General temporary assistance (local staff)	34 000	224 500	258 500
Consultants	-	45 600	45 600
Salaries	866 600	3 788 100	4 654 700
Common staff costs (including travel to mission and subsistence allowance)	1 493 100	4 972 800	6 465 900
Other offical travel of staff	35 200	156 400	191 600
Rental and maintenance of premises	33 600	89 700	123 300
Rental and maintenance of equipment	104 900	150 900	255 800
Communications	21 000	111 600	132 600
Public information activities	-	45 000	45 000
Miscellaneous services	5 400	34 000	39 400
Freight and related costs	-	5 000	5 000
Miscellaneous supplies	11 400	72 000	83 400
Acquisition of vehicles	-	352 000	352 000
Communications equipment	-	172 000	172 000
Miscellaneous equipment	24 000	115 000	139 000
Rental of aircraft	22 500	135 000	157 500
	2 651 700	10 469 600	13 121 300

III. CONTINGENCY FUND

14. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, additional expenditures proposed over and above those in the programme budget should be accommodated within a contingency fund, revised to a level of $18 million for the biennium 1992-1993. Paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213, however, provides, inter alia, that revised estimates

> "arising from the impact of extraordinary expenses, including those relating to the maintenance of peace and security, as well as fluctuations in rates of exchange and inflation, shall not be covered by the contingency fund and shall continue to be treated in accordance with established procedures and under the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules."

15. It is the Secretary-General's view that the additional requirements indicated in the present report are clearly of an extraordinary nature, relating to the maintenance of peace and security, and should thus be treated outside the procedures related to the contingency fund.

IV. SUMMARY

16. It is estimated that the net requirements of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa for the period from mid-September 1992 to 31 December 1993 will amount to $13,121,300. Accordingly, an appropriation of $13,121,300 will be required under section 2 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Furthermore, an additional appropriation of $1,673,200 will be required under section 36, offset by the same amount under income section 1.

17. The Secretary-General believes that these requirements should be dealt with under the provisions of paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 and should thus be treated outside the procedures related to the contingency fund.

Annex

PROPOSED ESTIMATES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN SOUTH AFRICA

(In United States dollars)

A. PERSONNEL COSTS	1992	1993
1. United Nations staff members		
Provision is made for salaries, common staff costs and travel and subsistence allowance in respect of the proposed 63 posts in 1992, to be reduced to 60 in 1993. The 60 posts would comprise: 1 D-2 post for the Chief and 1 D-1 post for the Deputy Chief of the Mission, 50 civilian observers, 3 administrative and 5 secretarial posts		
(a) Salaries - international staff	866 600	3 788 100
(b) Common staff costs	421 400	1 570 500
(c) Representation allowance	200	600
(c) Travel and subsistence	1 071 500	3 401 700
(d) Other official travel	35 200	156 400
2. Local staff		
29 local staff to be engaged under general temporary assistance	34 000	224 500
3. Consultants		
Requirements for three consultants to assist in specific fields	-	45 600
Total A, personnel costs	2 428 900	9 187 400

B. OPERATIONAL COSTS	(In United States dollars) 1992	1993
1. Rental of premises		
(a) Rental and maintenance of premises: (i) rental of Mission headquarters in Johannesburg at $3,700 monthly and, (ii) rental of sub-headquarters in Durban at $2,755 monthly. Rental period in 1992 is approximately 3.25 months	29 000	77 500
(b) Cost of utilities and maintenance of premises	4 600	12 200
Subtotal B.1, premises	33 600	89 700
2. Vehicle operations		
(a) Acquisition of 35 vehicles (1 medium-size sedan ($17,000), 32 light sedans ($9,600 each), and 2 minibuses ($14,000 each)). The large number of vehicles takes into account the various locations and the mobility and visibility required at all times during the Mission	-	352 000
(b) Rental of vehicle: Provision is made for the rental of 35 vehicles for 3.25 months in 1992 and for 2 months in 1993 at a monthly rate of $775 per vehicle	88 000	55 000
(c) Petrol, oil and maintenance of vehicles	16 900	95 900
Subtotal B.2, vehicle operations	104 900	502 900
3. Air support		
Rental of light fixed-wing aircraft and/or helicopter at a rental cost of $750 per hour for an average 15 hours monthly (2 months in 1992 and 12 months in 1993)	22 500	135 000
Subtotal B.3, air support	22 500	135 000

		(In United States dollars) 1992	1993
4.	Communications equipment and rental supplies		
	(a) Communications equipment: Purchase of 3 cryptofax units ($30,000 each), 45 VHF handie-talkies ($600 each), 2 VHF repeater stations ($10,000 each), 2 VHF base stations ($2,000 each), 4 antennas ($4,000), 12 pagers ($300 each), 5 mobile telephones ($3,500 each) and 2 mini-switchboards ($3,000 each)	-	172 000
	(b) Commercial communications telephone rental and call charges ($7,500 per month), pouch services ($1,800 per month) and rental of switchboards for about 2 months in 1992	21 000	111 600
	Subtotal B.4, communications	21 000	283 600
5.	Miscellaneous equipment		
	(a) EDP/word-processing equipment	13 400	64 000
	(b) Office equipment	4 400	21 000
	(c) Camcorders	3 100	15 000
	(d) Other miscellaneous equipment	3 100	15 000
	Subtotal B.5, miscellaneous equipment	24 000	115 000
6.	Miscellaneous supplies and services		
	Stationery and office supplies, medical supplies, maps, etc.	11 400	72 000
	Medical services and examinations, bank charges, casual labour, etc.	5 400	34 000
	Subtotal B.6, supplies and services	16 800	106 000

	(In United States dollars) 1992	1993
7. Freight and cartage	-	5 000
8. Public information activities		
Internal programme for production of posters and briefing materials and the purchase of local radio/TV time; cost of visit by a film crew to produce a video on the Mission's activities	-	45 000
Total B, operational costs	222 800	1 282 200
GRAND TOTAL	2 651 700	10 469 600